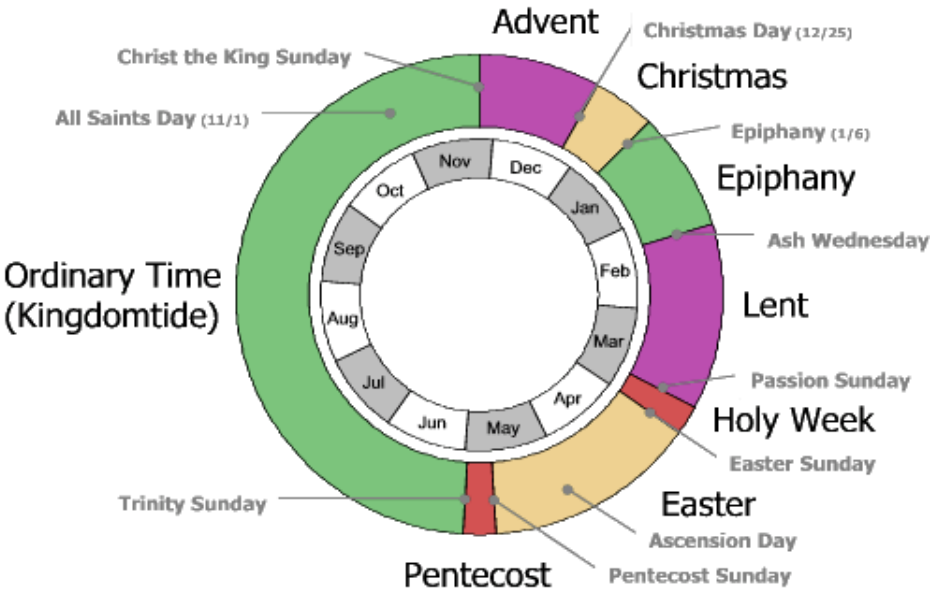
New Beginnings 2021



Learning Intentions:

I will reflect on the themes in the Baptism of Jesus, renewal, regrowth and community

I will reflect on how these themes can affect my actions during this second lockdown

Success Criteria

I will be able to identify the themes contained in the Gospel story the Baptism of Jesus

I will be able to identify the symbols and people involved in my own baptism

I will link my Baptismal promises to life today

I will be able to interpret quotations related to kindness

I will be able to identify kindness actions

I will be able to create a short tweet which encourages others to act kindly

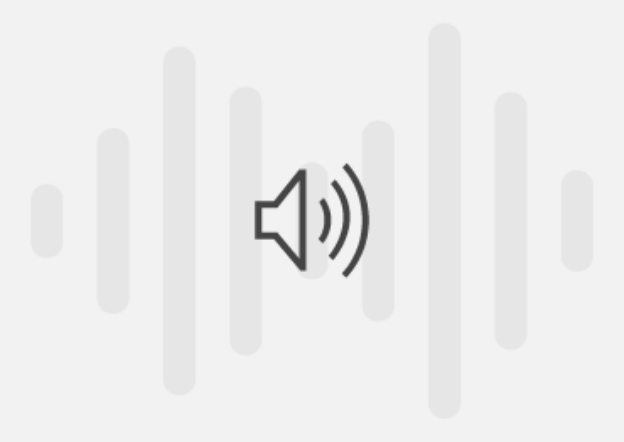
Sunday 10th January marks the last day of Christmastide and we move within the liturgical year to Ordinary time. This is a time of renewal and regrowth, symbolised by the colour green in the vestments and furnishings around the Church. This is a time for us to grow in faith.

Sunday celebrated the Baptism of Jesus and this is an important moment for Jesus and his disciples as this is the beginning of his adult ministry. It is a time for us to consider our new beginnings, new starts and a time of repentance. It is also important for us to reflect on our own Baptism.

1 - Jesus' baptism at the River Jordon. This is told to us in the Gospel of St Matthew.

Read or listen to the story of Jesus' Baptism by John.

Matthew 3:13-17



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The Baptism of Jesus

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Task 1

Think about the following questions below and answer them giving as much detail as you can.

Think about your own Baptism, the idea of regrowth and your knowledge of the life and person of Jesus to help you.

1. What happens at the sacrament of Baptism? (think about symbols used, people who are involved and the reasons why baptism is an important part of lifes' journey)
2. Why do you think that John would have first of all refused to baptise Jesus?
3. Why do you think repentance (saying/being sorry) is a part of Baptism?
4. Using the words on the stack - write a sentence using each key word and relate it to the the themes of baptism and regrowth, and renewal)

Baptism

New Beginnings

Faith

HOPE

Challenges

Baptismal Promises

Baptismal promises are made on our behalf by our parents and Godparents and these are renewed at the Sacrament of Confirmation and at the Easter Vigil in the Church.

Task 2:

Using the image write a paragraph explaining what these promises mean and how you and I can put them into practice in our lives.

Renewal

New Year is traditionally a time when people make 'new year resolutions' which often relate to health, exercise and diet.

As we move into ordinary time and a season of renewal your next task is to think about and identify how you can help your faith to grow.

Task: Think about and reflect on the idea of 'resolutions' for faith.

Write down three ways in which you (or others) could develop their faith throughout this coming year and particulary through this lockdown.

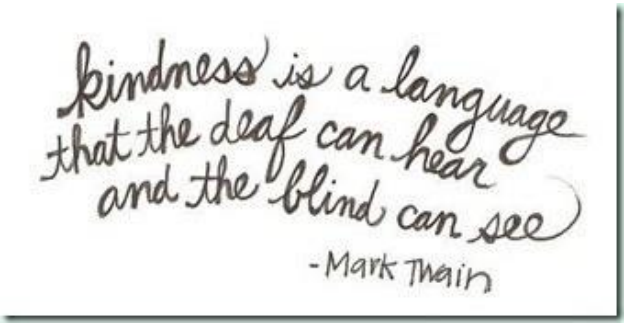
My three FAITH resolutions are...

Kindness during Covid Lockdown (again!)

Task 3:

Read the quotations about kindness in the stack

Choose one quotation - write down what it means to you - how are you able to put this into practice over the next week?

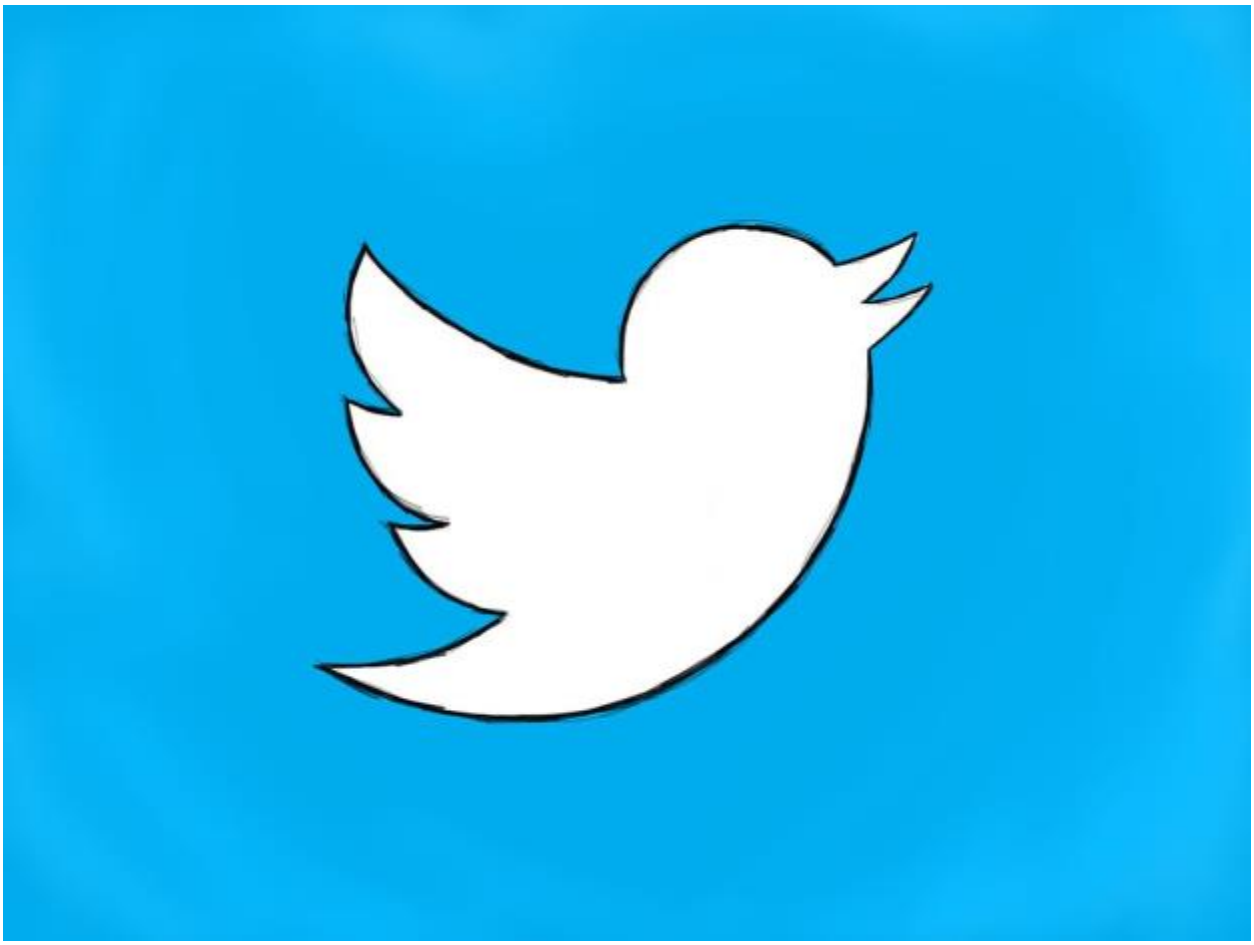


Task 4:

Write down 7 intentional acts of kindness that you will do each day this week (starting from today)

tick it off as you manage to do them and write down if you can the impact that your INTENTIONAL act of kindness had!

Final Task



Using what we have looked at today create a 'TWEET' encouraging intentional acts of kindness (maximum 140 characters)